

Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia; President Umar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir of Sudan; Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon of the United Nations; and President Mahmud Ahmadi-nejad of Iran. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

### Remarks Following Discussions With Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany in Heiligendamm

June 6, 2007

**Chancellor Merkel.** Ladies and gentlemen, this was our first meeting here during the G-8 meeting with the President of the United States of America. And we wanted to use this meeting in order to prepare the agenda of all of the issues that we're going to discuss here during the summit meeting. And it was a very satisfactory meeting, indeed, although in some areas there remain a few things here and there that we still need to discuss.

But what we would like to see coming out from this G-8 summit is, we would like to send a signal as to how we wish to shape globalization in the sense that we would like to give it a human face; we would like to shape it for human beings. We want to combat poverty. We want to ensure the freedom of investments. We want to also see to it that globalization respects the social dimension. We want to work on world trade issues. And there are a number of international conflicts that we wish to concentrate on and that we hope we will together be able to contain.

There are two priority issues that loom large on the agenda and could be seen and be also in the preparatory phase leading up to this meeting. The first one is climate change, and the second one, combating poverty in Africa. And on these two issues, we just had a very intensive and a very good conversation, a very good debate. As I said, there are few areas here and there we will continue to work on, but I trust that we will work out joint positions on that.

So let me say yet again, I do hope and trust that a very strong message will come out of this summit meeting, and we started here on a very good footing, indeed.

**President Bush.** Angela, thank you for your hospitality. You picked a beautiful site.

I'm appreciative of your leadership. I think that when people take an objective look at what's been accomplished here, people see that there's been major progress made on key issues. I come with a deep desire to make sure that those suffering from HIV/AIDS on the continent of Africa know that they'll get help from the G-8. I come with a deep desire to work with people around the table to reduce malaria on the continent of Africa and feed the hungry—I know you share that desire as well. Thank you for your leadership.

I also come with a strong desire to work with you on a post-Kyoto agreement about how we can achieve major objectives. One, of course, is the reduction of greenhouse gases. Another is to become more energy independent—in our case, from crude oil from parts of the world where we've got some friends and sometimes we don't have friends. We have a good chance to share our technologies with the developing world to make sure that we're good stewards of the environment. And I thank you for your leadership on this issue, and I'm looking forward to working with our fellow G-8 members.

It's good to be back in this part of the world. I know it takes a lot of hard work to put on one of these G-8s, and your team has done a fine job. Glad to be with you.

Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 2:25 p.m. at the Kempinski Grand Hotel Heiligendamm. Chancellor Merkel spoke in German, and her remarks were translated by an interpreter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### Remarks Following Discussions With Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan in Heiligendamm

June 6, 2007

**President Bush.** It's good to be with a friend, Shinzo Abe. We recently met at Camp David, and now we have a—we were on the phone since then, and now we have a chance to further our discussions.

We talked about a lot of subjects. Particularly, we talked about North Korea. There is a common message here, and that is, we

expect the North Koreans to honor agreements. And it's very important for the Japanese people to know that I strongly support Shinzo Abe's desire to deal with this very important issue of—the abduction issue.

Likewise, we had an extensive discussion about energy and climate change. I reminded the Prime Minister that his great country and great economy is going to lead the way when it comes—along with the United States, in leading the way coming to develop technologies that will enable us to be—change our energy habits and, at the same time, be good stewards of the environment. And we discussed ways to develop a framework that has the flexibility and, at the same time, the goals so we can encourage the world to move in that direction.

It's good to be with a friend.

**Prime Minister Abe.** This is the sixth time that I'm having discussions with George, and as we always do, this time we were able to have a very frank exchange of views on many things. On North Korea, unfortunately, the North Koreans have not done anything to implement the initial actions. And also on the issue of abduction, they have not taken any sincere actions to resolve that issue. So we agreed that the G-8 leaders need to send a strong message to North Korea on these issues. And also on the abduction issue, I explained the Japanese position to George once again, and I was able to gain his understanding on this issue, as he has always shown understanding.

On climate change, I explained the Japanese proposal to the President, and we agreed that Japan and the United States would be working together for the creation of an effective framework which is flexible, and that we would be cooperating to achieve that end in the future.

We reconfirmed the fact that the alliance we have between Japan and the United States in dealing with issues like North Korea and climate change is truly an alliance for Asia and an alliance for the entire world, for that matter.

**President Bush.** Thank you, sir. Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:29 p.m. at the Kempinski Grand Hotel Heiligendamm. Prime Minister Abe spoke in Japanese, and his remarks

were translated by an interpreter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Remarks Following Discussions With Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom and an Exchange With Reporters in Heiligendamm**

*June 7, 2007*

**Prime Minister Blair.** Well, obviously, this is a summit where we'll be discussing two crucial issues. One is the change in the climate and the actions that we need to take in order to address that. And I think this is a very substantial coming together around the need to make sure that we have a substantial reduction in emissions and find the right process and the right way that we can achieve that.

And I think with the President's speech last week, this has moved the situation on a great deal. I think there is a real desire to come together. I think everyone wants to be part of a post-Kyoto deal. Everyone wants to try and make sure that that is a deal that's got to be—that includes all the major emitters. And everyone wants to make sure that that deal can then command broad agreement right across the international community and deliver what people want to see, both for reasons of the environment and for reasons of energy security.

However, I think both myself and the President are very concerned, as well, to make sure that we do not simply focus on climate change. We've also got to focus on recommitting ourselves to the Gleneagles process on Africa, on making major steps forward there in relation to things like HIV/AIDS and education. In addition to that, of course, there's the situation in Darfur, where we both are anxious that there is strong action taken. And then we've also managed to have a word, too, about the world trade talks, which we want to see reach a successful conclusion.

So, I mean, there's still obviously a lot of talking and discussing going on, and we're about to go in for the main session now. But I do feel, myself, that people are coming together, and I think that's important.